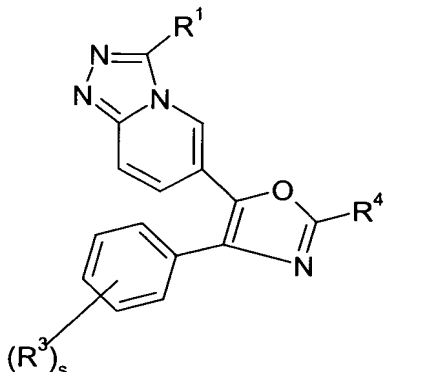


CLAIMS

1. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



- wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -C≡N, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (R²)₂-N-; wherein each of the aforesaid (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl and (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic substituents may optionally be independently substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, formyl, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, -NO₂, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (phenyl-)₂N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, phenyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, phenyl-(C=O)-O-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂N-(C=O)-O-, (phenyl-)₂N-(C=O)-O-; wherein when said R² phenyl contains two adjacent substituents, such substituents may optionally be taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring; wherein each of said moieties containing a phenyl alternative may optionally be substituted by one or two radicals independently selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl and perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy;
- each R² is independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid R² (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl,

(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, -NO₂, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two R² (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a five to six membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring;

each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)- and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two adjacent R³ substituents may be optionally taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;

s is an integer from zero to five;

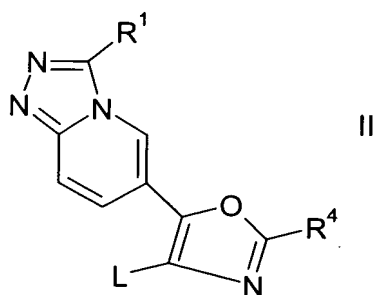
R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro or R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n;

n is an integer from zero to six;

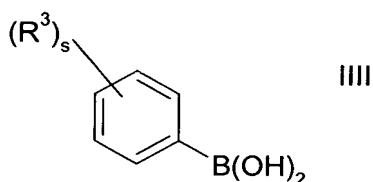
each B is independently a bond, -(CHR⁶)-, -O-, -S-, -(SO₂)-, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, -(C=O)-NR⁶-, -(R⁶-N)-, -(R⁶-N)-SO₂-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-, -SO₂-(NR⁶)-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-(NR⁷)-, -(O)-(C=O)-(NR⁶)- or -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-O-;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -CF₃, -C≡N, R⁹-(R⁸CH)_m-, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid R⁵ phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-,

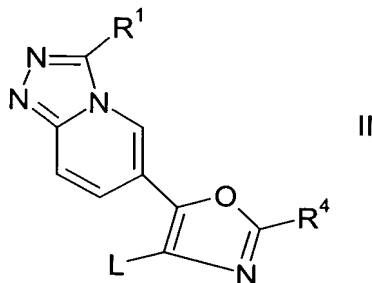
- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-,
- 5 HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two adjacent R⁵ substituents of said phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and
- 10 (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl may optionally be taken together with the carbon or heteroatom to which they are attached to form a five or six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;
- m is an integer from one to six;
- R⁶ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂- or (C₁-C₆)alkyl;
- R⁷ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₆)alkyl;
- 15 each R⁸ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy and (C₁-C₆)alkyl;
- R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-,
- 20 (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, phenyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-SO₂-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-,
- 25 (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-;
- 30 or an acceptable salt thereof; comprising reacting a compound of the formula



wherein L is a leaving group and R¹ and R⁴ are as defined above, with a compound of the formula



- 5 wherein R³ and s are as defined above and a transition metal catalyst.
2. A process according to claim 1, where the reaction is performed in the presence of toluene.
3. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



- 10 wherein L is halo and R¹ and R⁴ are as defined above;
- R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -C≡N, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (R¹)₂-N-; wherein each of the aforesaid (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl and (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic substituents may
- 15 optionally be independently substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, formyl, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-,
- 20 phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl-N]-(C=O)-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-,

phenyl-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, H₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-,
 [((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-,
 [((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, phenyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-, (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-NH-,
 phenyl-HN-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-,
 5 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-NH-,
 phenyl-O-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂NH-, phenyl-SO₂NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-,
 phenyl-SO₂-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-,
 phenyl-(C=O)-O-, H₂N-(C=O)-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, [((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂N-(C=O)-O-,
 phenyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-O-; wherein when said R¹ phenyl contains two
 10 adjacent substituents, such substituents may optionally be taken together with the carbon
 atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic
 ring; wherein each of said moieties containing a phenyl alternative may optionally be
 substituted by one or two radicals independently selected from the group consisting of
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl and perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy;
 15 each R² is independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl,
 (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid
 R¹ (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl
 substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected
 from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl,
 20 perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl,
 hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-,
 (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂-amino,
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-,
 25 phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-,
 (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-,
 HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-,
 [((C₁-C₆)alkyl)₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[((C₁-C₆)alkyl)-N]-(C=O)-,
 (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-,
 30 (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two R²
 (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached
 to form a five to six membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, fluoro, chloro or R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n;

n is an integer from zero to six;

each B is independently a bond, $-(\text{CHR}^6)-$, $-\text{O}-$, $-\text{S}-$, $-(\text{SO}_2)-$, $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $-\text{O}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{O}-$, $-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{NR}^6-$, $-(\text{R}^6-\text{N})-$, $-(\text{R}^6-\text{N})-\text{SO}_2-$, $-(\text{R}^6-\text{N})-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $-\text{SO}_2-(\text{NR}^6)-$, $-(\text{R}^6-\text{N})-(\text{C}=\text{O})-(\text{NR}^7)-$, $-(\text{O})-(\text{C}=\text{O})-(\text{NR}^6)-$ or $-(\text{R}^6-\text{N})-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{O}-$;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $-\text{CF}_3$, $-\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$, $\text{R}^9-(\text{R}^8\text{CH})_m-$,
 5 phenyl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl, and $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl; wherein each of the
 aforesaid R^5 phenyl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic and $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl
 substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected
 from the group consisting of halo, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl,
 perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkyl, phenyl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl,
 10 hydroxy, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, phenoxy, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl-O-,
 $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic-O-, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl-O-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-S-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂-,
 (C_1-C_6) alkyl-NH-SO₂-, $-\text{NO}_2$, amino, (C_1-C_6) alkylamino, $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}]_2$ -amino,
 (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -,
 phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -, $-\text{CN}$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-,
 15 $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl-(C=O)-, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic-(C=O)-, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl-(C=O)-,
 $\text{HO}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-O-(C=O)-, $\text{H}_2\text{N}(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-NH-(C=O)-,
 $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}]_2-\text{N}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$,
 $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-,
 $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two
 20 adjacent R^5 substituents of said phenyl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic and
 $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl may optionally be taken together with the carbon or heteroatom to which
 they are attached to form a five or six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;

m is an integer from one to six;

R^6 is hydrogen, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂- or (C_1-C_6) alkyl;

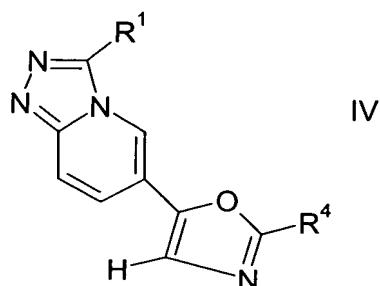
25 R^7 is hydrogen or (C_1-C_6) alkyl;

each R^8 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, amino,
 (C_1-C_6) alkoxy and (C_1-C_6) alkyl;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl,
 (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, phenyl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl, hydroxy,
 30 (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, phenoxy, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl-O-, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic-O-,
 $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl-O-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-S-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-NH-SO₂-, $-\text{NO}_2$, amino,
 (C_1-C_6) alkylamino, $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}]_2$ -amino, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂-NH-, phenyl-SO₂-NH-,
 (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -, phenyl-SO₂- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)-NH-,
 (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)- $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{N}]$ -,
 35 $-\text{CN}$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heteroaryl-(C=O)-,
 $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})$ heterocyclic-(C=O)-, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})$ cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, $\text{HO}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-O-(C=O)-,

$\text{H}_2\text{N}(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $[(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}]_2-\text{N}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, phenyl- $\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, phenyl- $[\text{N}((\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl})-(\text{C}=\text{O})]-$, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})\text{heteroaryl}-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_{10})\text{heterocyclic}-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $(\text{C}_3-\text{C}_{10})\text{cycloalkyl}-\text{NH}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-$, $(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_6)\text{alkyl}-(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{O}-$ and phenyl- $(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{O}-$;

5 by reaction of a compound of the formula



wherein R^1 and R^4 are as defined above; with a halogenating reagent.

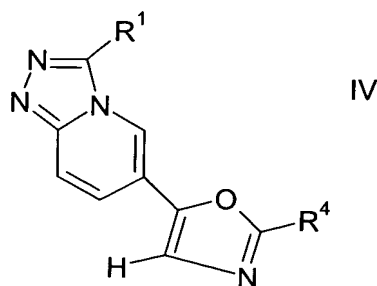
4. A process according to claim 2, wherein reaction is performed in the presence of a strong base.

10 5. A process according to claim 3, wherein said strong base is lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide or lithium diisopropylamide.

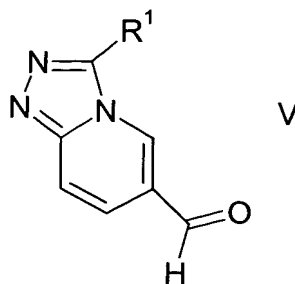
6. A process according to claim 4, additionally comprising a polar aprotic solvent.

15 7. A process according to claim 5, wherein said polar aprotic solvent is N,N-dimethylformamide.

8. A process for preparing a compound of the formula

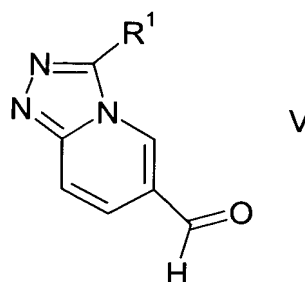


wherein R^4 is hydrogen and R^1 is as defined above in claim 1; comprising reacting a compound of the formula

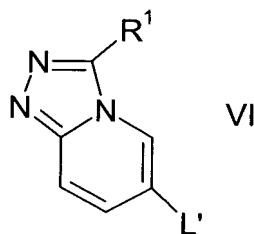


wherein R¹ is as defined above; with tosylmethyl isocyanide and a base.

9. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



5 wherein R¹ is as defined above in claim 2; by reaction of a compound of the formula

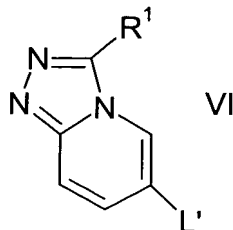


wherein L' is bromo or iodo and R¹ is as defined above; with an (C₁-C₆)alkyl magnesium halide or (C₁-C₆)alkyl lithium, followed by reaction with a disubstituted formamide reagent;

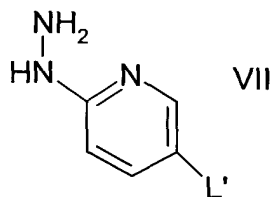
10 with the proviso that R¹ is other than isopropyl.

10. A process according to claim 9, additionally comprising citric acid or potassium dihydrogen phosphate.

11. A process for preparing a compound of the formula

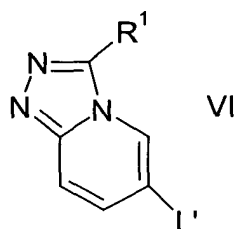


15 wherein L' is halo; and R¹ is isopropyl, comprising reacting a compound of the formula



wherein L' is halo; with isobutyryl chloride.

12. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



5 wherein L' is halo;

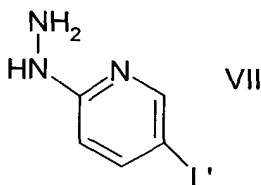
R¹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -C≡N, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (R¹)₂-N-; wherein each of the aforesaid (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl and (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic substituents may optionally be independently substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, formyl, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, -NO₂, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (phenyl)₂-N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, phenyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, phenyl-(C=O)-O-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-O-, (phenyl)₂-N-(C=O)-O-; wherein when said R¹ phenyl contains two adjacent substituents, such substituents may optionally be taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring; wherein each of said moieties containing a phenyl alternative may optionally be substituted by one or two radicals independently selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl and perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy;

and each R² is independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid R¹ (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl

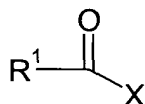
- substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, -NO₂, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two R² (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a five to six membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring;

with the proviso that R¹ is other than isopropyl;

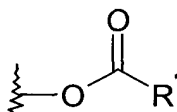
comprising reacting a compound of the formula



- wherein L' is halo; with a reagent of the formula



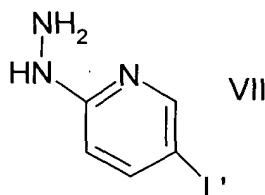
wherein X is halo, tosyl, mesyl or a group of the formula



wherein R' is R¹, t-butyl, or (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-;

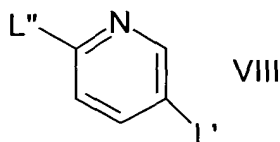
and R¹ is other than isopropyl.

13. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



wherein L' is halo;

comprising reacting a compound of the formula



wherein L' is halo and L'' is halo; with a hydrazine, PEG-300, water and 2-butanonol.

14. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl or (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic.
- 5 15. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl, optionally substituted with one to four groups independently selected from halo, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, -CN, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-CO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, 10 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, optionally substituted phenyl-(C=O)-, optionally substituted phenyl-(C=O)-O-, optionally substituted phenoxy, optionally substituted phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, optionally substituted phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, optionally substituted phenyl-(C=O)-NH- and optionally substituted phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-.
- 15 16. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is (C₁-C₄)alkyl.
17. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is isopropyl.
18. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted (C₃-C₆)cycloalkyl.
19. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted phenyl.
- 20 20. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted phenyl, wherein said substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, formyl, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, H₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-, (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-HN-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, (phenyl)₂N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-O-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂NH-, phenyl-SO₂NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, phenyl-SO₂-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, phenyl-(C=O)-O-, H₂N-(C=O)-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂N-(C=O)-O-, 25 30

phenyl-HN-(C=O)-O-, (phenyl-)₂N-(C=O)-O-; wherein each of said moieties containing a phenyl alternative may optionally be substituted by one or two radicals independently selected from the group consisting of (C₁-C₆)alkyl, halo, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl and perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy.

5 21. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted phenyl wherein said substituents are independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-,
10 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, H₂N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-, H₂N-(C=O)-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-O- and [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-O-.

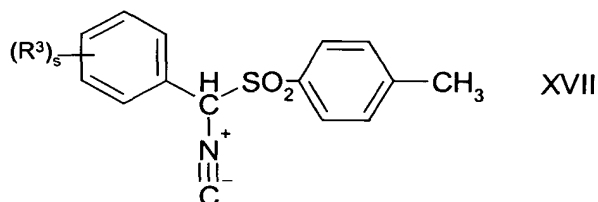
15 22. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is optionally substituted phenyl containing two adjacent substituents which taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring.

 23. A process according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is (R²)₂-N-, wherein each R¹ is independently selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid R², (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl substituents may optionally be substituted by one to
20 four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-,
25 (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two R² (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to form a
30 five to six membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring.

24. A process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is $(R^2)_2N-$ and wherein each R^2 is independently selected from hydrogen, (C_1-C_4) alkyl, phenyl and (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic.

25. A process according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is hydrogen.

26. A process for preparing a compound of the formula



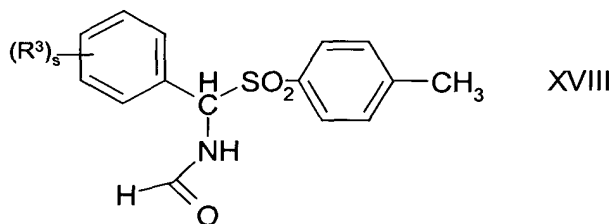
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wherein each R^3 is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkyl, phenyl, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, phenoxy, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl-O-, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic-O-, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl-O-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-S-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-SO₂-, (C_1-C_6) alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C_1-C_6) alkylamino, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$ -amino, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -SO₂-NH-, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -(C=O)-NH-, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -(C=O)- $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]$ -, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)- $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]$ -, -CN, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -O-(C=O)-, H_2N -(C=O)-, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -NH-(C=O)-, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$ -N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl- $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]$ -(C=O)-, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)- and $(C_1-C_6)alkyl$ -(C=O)-O-; wherein two adjacent R^3 substituents may be optionally taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;

20

s is an integer from zero to five;

or an acceptable salt thereof; comprising reacting a compound of the formula



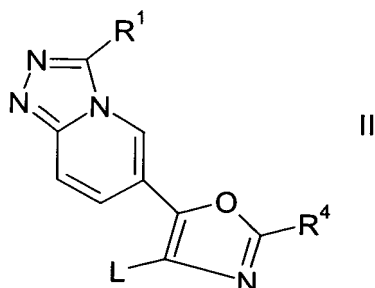
wherein R^3 and s are as defined above, in the presence of POCl₃, 2,6-lutidine and a solvent.

25

27. A process according to claim 26, wherein said solvent is tetrahydrofuran.

28. A process according to claim 27, further comprising working up the reaction in the presence of citric acid.

29. A compound of the formula



wherein L is bromo or chloro;

- R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, $-C\equiv N$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic and $(R^2)_2N-$; wherein each of the aforesaid (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl, phenyl, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl and (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic substituents may optionally be independently substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, (C_2-C_6) alkenyl, (C_2-C_6) alkynyl, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkyl, phenyl, (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic, formyl, $-CN$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl- $(C=O)-$, phenyl- $(C=O)-$, $HO-(C=O)-$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl- $O-(C=O)-$, (C_1-C_6) alkyl- $NH-(C=O)-$, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2N-(C=O)-$, phenyl- $NH-(C=O)-$, phenyl- $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-(C=O)-$, $-NO_2$, amino, (C_1-C_6) alkylamino, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2$ -amino, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, phenyl- $(C=O)-NH-$, phenyl- $(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, $H_2N-(C=O)-NH-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-NH-$, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2N-(C=O)-NH-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2N-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, phenyl- $HN-(C=O)-NH-$, $(phenyl)_2N-(C=O)-NH-$, phenyl- $HN-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, $(phenyl)_2N-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-O-(C=O)-NH-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-O-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, phenyl- $O-(C=O)-NH-$, phenyl- $O-(C=O)-[(C_1-C_6)alkyl-N]-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-SO_2NH-$, phenyl- SO_2NH- , $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-SO_2-$, phenyl- SO_2- , hydroxy, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, phenoxy, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-C(=O)-O-$, phenyl- $(C=O)-O-$, $H_2N-(C=O)-O-$, $(C_1-C_6)alkyl-HN-(C=O)-O-$, $[(C_1-C_6)alkyl]_2N-C(=O)-O-$, phenyl- $HN-(C=O)-O-$, $(phenyl)_2N-(C=O)-O-$; wherein when said R^1 phenyl contains two adjacent substituents, such substituents may optionally be taken together with the carbon atoms to which they are attached to form a five to six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring; wherein each of said moieties containing a phenyl alternative may optionally be substituted by one or two radicals independently selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_6) alkyl, halo, (C_1-C_6) alkoxy, perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkyl and perhalo (C_1-C_6) alkoxy;
- each R^2 is independently selected from hydrogen, (C_1-C_6) alkyl, phenyl, (C_1-C_{10}) heteroaryl, (C_1-C_{10}) heterocyclic and (C_3-C_{10}) cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid

R¹ (C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two R² (C₁-C₆)alkyl groups may be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a five to six membered heterocyclic or heteroaryl ring;

R⁴ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halo or R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n;

n is an integer from zero to six;

each B is independently a bond, -(CHR⁶)-, -O-, -S-, -(SO₂)-, -(C=O)-, -O-(C=O)-, -(C=O)-O-, -(C=O)-NR⁶-, -(R⁶-N)-, -(R⁶-N)-SO₂-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-, -SO₂-(NR⁶)-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-(NR⁷)-, -(O)-(C=O)-(NR⁶)- or -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-O-;

R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -CF₃, -C≡N, R⁹-(R⁸CH)_m-, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid R⁵ phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl substituents may optionally be substituted by one to four moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-,

(C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-; wherein two adjacent R⁵ substituents of said phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl may optionally be taken together with the carbon or heteroatom to which they are attached to form a five or six membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;

5 m is an integer from one to six;

R⁶ is hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂- or (C₁-C₆)alkyl;

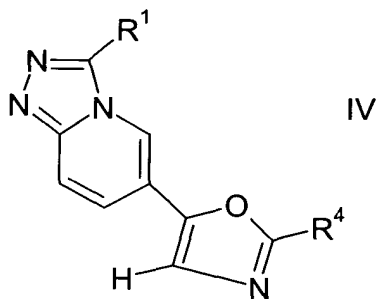
R⁷ is hydrogen or (C₁-C₆)alkyl;

each R⁸ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy and (C₁-C₆)alkyl;

10 R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, phenyl-SO₂-NH-,
15 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-SO₂-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-,
20 phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-;

or a salt thereof.

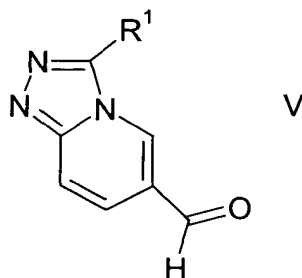
30. A compound of the formula



25

wherein R¹ and R⁴ are as defined above in claim 21; or a salt thereof.

31. A compound of the formula



wherein R¹ is as defined above; or a salt thereof, wherein said compound is other than 3-isopropyl-[1,2,4]triazolo(4,3-a)-6-pyridinecarboxaldehyde.

32. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R¹ is (C₁-C₆)alkyl.
- 5 33. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R¹ is isopropyl.
34. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is hydrogen.
35. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n- and n is zero.
36. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n- and n is an integer from one to five.
- 10 37. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n-; n is zero; B is a bond and R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, -CF₃, -C≡N, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic or (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl; wherein each of the aforesaid (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl may optionally be substituted by one to three moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-
15 C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₁-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)- and
20 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-.
38. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n-; n is zero; B is -(C=O)-NR⁶-, -(R⁶-N)-, -(R⁶-N)-SO₂-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-, >C=O, -O-(C=O)-, -SO₂-(NR⁶)-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-(NR⁷)-, and
R⁵ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl or phenyl;
25 wherein the aforesaid phenyl and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl may optionally be substituted by one to three moieties independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-,
30 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[N(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-,

(C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)- and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-.

39. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n-; n is zero; B is -(C=O)-NR⁶-, -(R⁶-N)-, >C=O, -O-(C=O)-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)- or -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-(NR⁷)₂-; R⁹ is R⁹-(R⁸CH)_m-; m is 1-6; R⁶ is hydrogen or methyl; R⁸ is hydrogen or methyl; and R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, phenyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, phenyl-SO₂-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[N-((C₁-C₆)alkyl)]-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-.

40. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n-; n is zero; B is -(R⁶-N)-; R⁵ is hydrogen or R⁹-(R⁸CH)_m-; m is 1-6; R⁶ is hydrogen or methyl; R⁸ is hydrogen or methyl; and R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂amino, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic and (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl.

41. A compound according to claim 22, wherein R⁴ is R⁵-B-(CH₂)_n-; n is one to four; B is -(C=O)-NR⁶-, -(R⁶-N)-, -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)- or -(R⁶-N)-(C=O)-(NR⁷)₂-; R⁵ is R⁹-(R⁸CH)_m-; m is 1-6; R⁶ is hydrogen or methyl; R⁸ is hydrogen or methyl; and R⁹ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, phenyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, phenyl-SO₂-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[N-(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-,

(C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-, H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O- and phenyl-(C=O)-O-.

5 42. A compound according claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to four and each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, phenyl, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, phenoxy, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-O-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-O-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-O-,
10 (C₁-C₆)alkyl-S-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-SO₂-, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-SO₂-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-NH-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, phenyl-(C=O)-NH-, phenyl-(C=O)-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-, phenyl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-(C=O)-, HO-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₆)alkyl-O-(C=O)-,
15 H₂N(C=O)- (C₁-C₆)alkyl-NH-(C=O)-, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-N-(C=O)-, phenyl-NH-(C=O)-, phenyl-[(C₁-C₆)alkyl]-N-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heteroaryl-NH-(C=O)-, (C₁-C₁₀)heterocyclic-NH-(C=O)-, (C₃-C₁₀)cycloalkyl-NH-(C=O)- and (C₁-C₆)alkyl-(C=O)-O-.

43. A compound according to claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to four and each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, -CN, (C₁-C₆)alkyl,
20 (C₂-C₆)alkenyl, (C₂-C₆)alkynyl and perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl.

44. A compound according to claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to four and zero, one or two of R³ are independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, -CN, and H₂N(C=O)-.

25 45. A compound according to claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to three and each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, hydroxy, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy, -NO₂, amino, (C₁-C₆)alkylamino, [(C₁-C₆)alkyl]₂-amino, -CN, and H₂N(C=O)-.

46. A compound according to claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to two and each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of halo, (C₁-C₆)alkyl, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkyl, (C₁-C₆)alkoxy, perhalo(C₁-C₆)alkoxy and -CN.
30

47. A compound according to claim 1, wherein s is an integer from zero to three and each R³ is independently selected from the group consisting of fluoro, chloro and methyl.

48. A compound selected from the group consisting of:
35 3-Isopropyl-6-[4-bromo-oxazol-5-yl]-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine; and 3-Isopropyl-6-[oxazol-5-yl]-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-a]pyridine; or

an acceptable salt thereof.